

**Minutes of the Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2008 at 7.15pm in the Bowls Pavilion**

**Present:** JE Coston (chair) RH Chapman PS Badley AJ Campbell G Covell TA Drummond M Ellwood SC Humphreys B Jefferson IF May HM Smith RT Summerfield RLE Waters  
Councillor M Williamson (part), 3 members of the public and the clerk  
PCSO C Whiteman (part)  
M Woolhouse CSLT (part)

1/12-08 **1 Public Participation**

Issues raised:

- Concerns about recent crime in the village – houses targeted by youths probably using catapults to fire pebbles at windows, vandalism, graffiti, thefts from the allotments and the apparent lack of response from the police.

Noted that RTS reported these problems to the recent Police Panel meeting.

- Questionnaire from Januarys had been circulated at St.John's Innovation Centre in Cowley Road about the proposed Travelodge hotel.
- Cemetery gate.
- Jane Coston bridge - broken lights and graffiti still there after months.
- Allotment gate - overwhelming response against keeping the gate locked.

2/12-08 **2 Welcome to PCSO Claire Whiteman**

PCSO Claire Whiteman introduced herself to the meeting and reminded members about “e-cops”. The police were trying to track down the person tagging “CB4” in the village. Noted that the youth club leader intended to talk with the youngsters about the car vandalised on Wednesday 19 November. The police and Trading Standards were aware that the rogue trader had returned. Cathy Inman Trading Standards Officer had reported to the clerk that her department and the police were working together on this case.

CW was liaising with CSLT about vandalism at the Country Park.

Noted that Milton had one of the lowest crime rates in the area.

The Parish Plan Steering Group hoped that a police liaison group and Neighbourhood Watch could be set up. Parish Plan meeting scheduled for 11<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm.

Thanks to CW for attending.

3/12-08 **3 Mick Woolhouse CSLT - update**

Issues covered by M Woolhouse:

Country Park - Cambridge Fish and Preservation Society; café; burnt dog bins; planning application to extend the Visitor Centre and project to refurbish the building; £50,000 grant received for landscaped play facility; diary of events for 2009 eg small beer festival, food and farming markets; ongoing maintenance work including planting of 272 trees, proposal to improve the boundary adjacent the recreation ground and tree work in Tomkins Mead. Noted that CSLT used a tree company for high level work and that Acacia Tree Surgery had quoted for works in Tomkins Mead. [Cost of works in Tomkins Mead – if agreed by MPC - would be met by MPC as per the Agreement with CSLT].

Rowing Lake – Mike Muir-Smith was the new chairman. S106 Agreement was close to being signed. Estimated start of works approximately 12 months assuming funding was forthcoming. Donations were being sought from private, charitable and sporting organisations. Many young people were involved in a triathlon programme.

There was possibly scope for a Milton Country Park User Forum. The CSLT office was now based at the Visitor Centre.

Thank you to MW for attending.

4/12-08 **4 Apologies for absence** - R Day RJ Farrington.

5/12-08 **5 Declarations of Interest – personal and/or prejudicial**

JEC – land update - personal – husband and son play cricket for Milton Cricket Club.

HMS – planning - personal – member of SCDC planning committee.

IFM - land update personal – chairman of colts football club.

PSB and ME – allotments – personal – both allotment holders.

- 6/12-08      **6 Minutes** - the minutes of the meeting of 10 November 2008 were approved and signed as a true record.
- 7/12-08      **7 Clerk's / Chairman's report**  
 (8/10-08)      Milton Primary School – time capsule – letter of thanks received for the donation received from the School Council.
- 8/12-08      Parish Plan – due to be published at a “pre-launch” meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> December. All members invited.  
 (6/11-08)      Membership of groups would need to be identified. The Environmental Group were due to meet on 10 December to discuss renewable energy and had arranged to visit Donarbon on 28 January. All welcome.
- 9/12-08      Telephone Box – BT would not replace their glass kiosks with the "red" kiosks. [Refers to replacing the one in High Street with the red box].  
 (8/11-08)      BT's planning team was consulting with South Cambridgeshire District Council as to the future of the kiosk in Coles Road. Council could apply to adopt the kiosk ahead of the outcome.
- 10/12-08      Remembrance Ceremony – as usual a moving ceremony was held on 11<sup>th</sup> November at 11am.  
 (9/11-08)
- 11/12-08      Park & Ride – it was **AGREED** that the clerk write to A Frost and B Smith CCC to query:  
 (14/11-08)      Lack of lighting on the A10 foot bridge (especially the dark village side); responsibility for gritting the bridge; possibility of unauthorised access to the recently levelled land adjacent A10; insufficient parking space at the Park & Ride (car park was full on the first Saturday and cars were parking on the adjacent road); the immediate provision of CCTV while the A14 bridge had been waiting for 5+ years for CCTV. In addition the gate at the end of Butt Lane was being left open. **Action: the clerk**
- 12/12-08      A10 surface - it was **AGREED** that the clerk include in the letter Council's concerns that that part of the A10 c 200 metres in length just north of the Butt Lane junction had not been resurfaced in conjunction with the Park & Ride improvements as promised by Alistair Frost. AF in an email to the clerk had stated: “It is my intention to do the remaining surfacing work as soon as is possible. However currently I do not have a firm date in mind nor has funding been allocated. I am sorry I cannot give you a firm date for the final sections of resurfacing.” **Action: the clerk**
- RHC was concerned that A Frost had failed to deliver on promises made at Council meetings (and APM) and that Council should consider making a formal complaint. It was **AGREED** to invite A Frost to the next meeting and that prepared specific questions be put to him to give him the opportunity to explain. The clerk would ask MW to assist. **Action: the clerk**
- 13/12-08      IVC – Foundation status - nothing further to report.  
 (15/11-08)
- 14/12-08      Christmas arrangements – RJF had reported “business as usual”.
- 15/12-08      Assistant clerk – advert had been published. Interviewing panel: Chairman, vice- chairman, RTS and the clerk.  
 (25/11-08)
- 16/12-08      A14 Cycle/foot bridge – residents were complaining about the lack of upkeep of the lighting on the bridge  
 (32/11-08 &      As neither the Highways Agency nor CCC were willing to accept responsibility the chairman offered to broker a meeting with both bodies. **Action: the chairman**  
 (33/11-08)
- 17/12-08      Granta Housing – the chairman attended a celebration of 40 years of Granta Housing. The Society were looking at the possibility of providing a scheme in Milton.
- 8 Planning**
- 18/12-08      S/1774/08/F - First floor side extension, 49 Fen Road, Milton  
 (23/11-08)      Recommendation of officers: **Approval**

Decisions received

19/12-08  
(22/11-08) Tesco Stores Ltd Cambridge Road – installation of a combined heat and power unit – **approved**. (Noise impact assessment report received). Policies: East of England Plan 2008 **SS1**; South Cambs Local Development Framework Development Control Policies 2007 **DP/1 to 3, DP/7 and NE/15** (Noise Pollution).

New applications

20/12-08  
(52/4-08) S/0457/08 Mr & Mrs Jefford Greengates Chesterton Fen Road – replacement dwelling and extension to garden – **amended layout in response to the Local Highway Authority’s comments – for information only**.

21/12-08 S/1845/08 Mr & Mrs W Gunn 313 The Rowans – first floor side and single storey rear extensions – **no recommendation so long as the proposed extensions would not adversely affect the amenities of the neighbouring properties**. (Delegated).

22/12-08 S/1864/08 Mr R Fairhurst 42 Fen Road – conversion of outbuilding to form annexe to main building - **no recommendation**.

23/12-08 S/1984/08 Mr L Smith – 8 Cambridge Road – conversion of garage to living accommodation - **no recommendation**.

24/12-08 **9 External auditor’s report for year ended 31 March 2008**

From Moore Stephens: “The information given in the Annual Return is in accordance with the Audit Commission’s requirements and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.”

25/12-08 **10 Maintenance**

(28/10-08) **Quotations for tree works**

Four quotations were received for tree works throughout the village including The Sycamores recreation ground. RLEW stressed that these works were essential and not ongoing general maintenance and that in some instances residents had requested the works.

RHC, RD and RLEW had opened the quotations together.

**AGREED** (10 in favour 2 abstentions)

**to accept the quotation in full from Town & Country Tree Surgeons and to ask MCC to pay 50% of the costs relating to The Sycamores recreation ground.** [Works at The Sycamore recreation ground were a legacy left by the developers and MPC prior to the hand over of the ground to MCC]

Chairman of Finance recommended that payment would be taken from budget underspend; failing that from reserve.

An article publicising the tree works would be published in the Village View.

**Tree works at Tomkins Mead**

M Woolhouse had passed to Council a quotation for tree works at Tomkins Mead – to be discussed at January meeting.

**Proposal to lock gate at allotments**

Council provided the gate to try to prevent unauthorised access and the problem of fly tipping on site. RHC stressed that Council could not be held responsible for thefts from the allotments.

The clerk had informed those allotment holders with email addresses of the proposal to keep the gate locked. There was an overwhelming response against the idea. RHC thanked the allotment holders for their replies. It was **AGREED**

**to take note of the responses: to replace the lock with a more ‘user-friendly’ one and to put signs on the gate:- “Please lock gate when you leave”.**

*Action: RHC and the clerk*

**Proposal to lock gate at cemetery to prevent vehicular access**

Vehicles had been seen in the cemetery late at night. Rubbish was being dumped in the green waste bin which RHC intended to clear. It was **AGREED**

**to put a sign on the green waste bin:- “Green waste only. Please put other rubbish in the bin provided” and to put a sign on the gate:- “Please respect our cemetery. Do not use vehicles unless it is really necessary.”** *Action: RHC and the clerk*

[Note: RHC and the clerk had subsequently agreed on the following wording: “Please respect our cemetery. Vehicular access for disabled only.”]

- 26/12-08 **12 MCC update** – no report.
- 27/12-08 **13 County Councillor’s report** - no report. [MW had left to attend another meeting].
- 28/12-08 **14 District Councillors’ reports**  
Home insulation – two older residents had qualified for insulation of their homes.  
 (41/9-08) Chesterton Fen – provision of mains sewer – investigation still ongoing.  
Climate change action – discussed at recent CPALC meeting. Grant schemes for villages was being proposed by SCDC.  
Ditch Goding Way – causing problems. Environment Agency were going to look at it.  
 (1/11-08) A14 Consultation – John Clarke , Highways Agency had confirmed that there would be some land take to widen the A14 and that clay and gravel would be extracted from land to the west of the A10 for works between Histon/Girton and Fen Ditton. The material would be transported across fields. There would be no works depot in the Milton area.  
 There would be substantial tree planting but no sound barrier.
- 29/12-08 **15 Bills for Payment and Money Received**  
**CONFIRMED** payment of cheques 3858-3861 and direct debit (Broadband)  
**AGREED** payment of cheques 3862-3867. (Cheque 3867 to be confirmed by RHC)  
 Noted: receipts and payments for the minibus from 01/04/08 to date – cheques 41-50 and monthly direct debits for fuel – were circulated.
- 30/12-08 **16 Correspondence**  
**SCDC** - Standards Committee's Autumn newsletter  
 - Council Housing in South Cambs newsletter  
**CCC** - Trading Standards newsletter  
 - Information about welfare benefits (Community Care)  
 - Parish Paths Partnership – invitation to apply for grant  
 - Annual Report 2007-08  
**Citizens Advice Bureau** - information about extra service now being provided and requesting a donation
- 31/12-08 **11 Land update including update about land at rear of Milton Hall** (agreed to take this item last)  
 (29/11-08) **AGREED [Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960] to exclude members of the public to this item as publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business**  
 - **to consider appointing a fundraiser**  
 The meeting was closed at 9.17 and re-opened at 9.20pm.
- 17 Dates of Next Meetings**  
 Youth - 9 December  
 Community Care - 11 December 11.00am  
 Planning - 15 December 7.00pm  
 Maintenance - 15 December 7.30pm  
 2009 dates attached
- 32/12-08 **18 Items for January agenda** (to be received by Tuesday 23 December – agenda to be published on Tuesday 30 December)

The meeting ended at 9.20pm

Signed.....

Date.....